United States Air Force Auxiliary

Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol

For Immediate Release

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MEMBER RECEIVES AWARD

Breezy Point, MN – Cadet Captain Benjamin Banwart received Minnesota Wing's Cadet Communications Specialist of the Year Award during a ceremony on May 4^{th.} Cadet Banwart is a member of Viking Composite Squadron that meets Tuesday Nights at Bloomington Covenant Church.

The Cadet Communications Specialist of the Year Award recognizes a Cadet who excels at the delivery of the CAP Communications Program to the members of his unit.

The mission of the Civil Air Patrol Communications Program is to organize and maintain a reliable, nationwide, point-to-point, air-to-ground, and ground mobile radio capability in support of the missions of CAP. These include: Emergency Services, Cadet Programs and Aerospace Education.

The primary purpose of any CAP communications facility is to provide the commander with the means for controlling his/her units and their activities. In addition, it provides the commander at each echelon the ability to communicate with superior and subordinate commanders.

Communications facilities of CAP are used in support of many operations including; Emergencies. Operational Flying, Administration, Training and Support to Other Agencies.

The announcement of the ward was made at 2002 Minnesota Wing Conference, held at Breezy Point Resort 3-5 May.

Civil Air Patrol, the official U. S. Air Force Auxiliary, is a civilian, volunteer, nonprofit, service organization. The unpaid members perform more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and conduct one of America's finest youth programs through CAP Cadet Programs.

There are more than 1300 Civil Air Patrol members in Minnesota.

For more information about Civil Air Patrol go to our website www.mnwg.cap.gov or call 1-800-FLY-2338.